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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: David M. Stern et al.

Serial No.: 09/374,213

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed : August 13, 1999

Examiner: Sandra Wegert

For : METHODS OF INHIBITING BINDING OF  $\beta$ -SHEET FIBRIL TO  
RAGE AND CONSEQUENCES THEREOF

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
October 4, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO JULY 2, 2004 OFFICE ACTION**

This Communication is submitted in response to a July 2, 2004 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. The Office Action provides a period of three months to file a response. Therefore, a response is due October 2, 2004. However, because October 2, 2004 falls on a Saturday, a response filed the next business day, i.e. Monday, October 4, 2004, is to be considered timely. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.